IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-36, 40, 43, 44, and 48-59 were previously cancelled. Claim 45 has been amended herein. All of the pending claims are presented below. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application. Please enter these claims as amended.

1.-36. (Canceled)

37. (Previously presented) The oral sustained-release pharmaceutical composition according to claim 45, wherein the oral sustained-release pharmaceutical composition releases the active compound at a rate sufficient to maintain a therapeutically effective serum concentration of the active compound for at least 8 hours.

38. (Previously presented) The oral sustained-release pharmaceutical composition according to claim 45, wherein the oral sustained-release pharmaceutical composition releases the active compound at a rate sufficient to maintain a therapeutically effective serum concentration of the active compound for at least 12 hours.

39. (Previously presented) The oral sustained-release pharmaceutical composition according to claim 45, wherein the gelling agent comprises xanthan gum.

40. (Canceled)

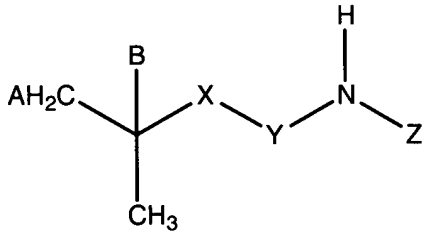
41. (Previously presented) The oral sustained-release pharmaceutical composition according to claim 45, further comprising at least one excipient.

42. (Previously presented) The oral sustained-release pharmaceutical composition according to claim 45, wherein the active compound is isovaleramide.

43. (Canceled)

44. (Canceled)

45. (Currently amended) An oral sustained-release pharmaceutical composition comprising a core matrix comprising a therapeutically effective amount of an active compound, a gelling agent, and a polymeric film coating material comprising a mixture of ethyl cellulose and hydroxypropyl methylcellulose that retards access of liquids to the active compound and/or retards release of the active compound through the film-coating, wherein the amount of the active compound represents from about 40% to about 70% by weight of the oral-sustained release pharmaceutical composition, and wherein the active compound is selected from the group consisting of: isovaleric acid, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of isovaleric acid, a pharmaceutically acceptable ester of isovaleric acid, a compound having the structure:



wherein A = H, CH_3, or OH,

B = H, OH, or CH_3,

X = CH_2, $CHCH_3$, $C(CH_3)_2$, -O-, CH(OH), or -CH_2O-,

Y = -CO-, or –SO_2-, and

Z = H, CH_2CO_2H, or CH_2CONH_2,

and a compound selected from the group consisting of isovaleramide, 2-methylisovaleramide, 3-methylisovaleramide, 2,2-dimethylisovaleramide, 2,3-dimethylisovaleramide, 4-methylisovaleramide, 2,4-dimethylisovaleramide, 3,4-dimethylisovaleramide, 2,2,4-trimethylisovaleramide, 3-hydroxyisovaleramide, 4-hydroxyisovaleramide, 4-hydroxy-3-methyl-isovaleramide, 2-hydroxyisovaleramide,

N-(2-acetamido)isovaleramide, 2-methyl-1-propylsulfonamide, 1-methylethyl sulfamate, 2-methyl-1-propyl sulfamate, isopropyl carbamate, and isobutylcarbamate.

46. (Previously presented) The oral sustained-release pharmaceutical composition according to claim 45, wherein the polymeric coating material further comprises a plasticizer.

47. (Previously presented) The oral sustained-release pharmaceutical composition according to claim 45, wherein the oral sustained-release pharmaceutical composition is in the form of a tablet, capsule, or multiparticulate composition.

48.-59. (Canceled)